Today's News - Monday, September 8, 2008

- ArcSpace brings us de Portzamparc in Brazil, and Moneo at RISD.
- · McGuigan looks forward to the day when green architecture "won't be discretionary but required...Then we could all shut up about it."
- Q&A with two U.K. green architects: "Green technology is not something that can be bolted on."
- · A new environmental game to determine how human behavior and land use affect air quality.
- · A call for Phoenix to regain its seemingly lost architectural moxie in settling for low-bid buildings and timid design.
- Ouroussoff offers a few highlights of the coming architectural season.
- · Davidson dives into a building-by-building survey of what's hot (and what's not) in new New York architecture (it's exhaustive and worth the time!).
- · The architects behind the starchitects (or what the architects-of-record really do).
- · Glancey finds the Darwin Centre "a quietly masterful stroke" (though it might be a bit too "Kafka-esque" for some).
- · Amery finds the "giant egg" a building "of great originality and intelligence...that functions both practically and dramatically."
- Hadid to get value-engineered again this time in Glasgow.
- · Rochon on the latest trend in university design: offering "big-city pleasures wrapped up in welcoming, occasionally daring architecture."
- · Saffron is pleased to see the trend catching on in new state college buildings because today, "merely being a bargain is not enough."
- Rockwell lands the 2008 Sarno Award for contributions to the field of casino design and architecture.
- · MoMA's Lowry begs to differ with Ouroussoff's take on Koolhaas not winning the job Taniguchi ultimately landed.
- Deadline reminder: 56th Annual P/A Awards September 19.

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- -- Under construction: Atelier Christian de Portzamparc: Cidade da Musica, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- -- José Rafael Moneo: Chase Center, RISD Museum of Art, Providence, Rhode Island
- -- Summer 2008 review

The Bad News About Green Architecture: Sustainable buildings are virtuous, but they can be ugly. Only a few designs are truly great...I look forward to a future when green architecture won't be discretionary but required...Then we could all shut up about it. Sustainable features would become as exciting as the plumbing systems and as essential as a roof that keeps out the rain. By Cathleen McGuigan -- Renzo Piano- Newsweek

"Green technology is not something that can be bolted on": Leading green architects argue that until sustainability becomes central to building design, green innovations will struggle to make it into the mainstream...Q&A with Jennifer Beningfield/Openstudio and Sarah Wigglesworth-BusinessGreen.com

The Black Cloud: Using Games to Understand Air Quality: Human behavior and land use affect air quality, and those effects are very distinct at the local level. A new environmental game fusing public participation, air quality sensors and web technology shows how.- PLANetizen

Phoenix architecture should take bigger risks: Architecture is a city's wardrobe, and the question is, will we spend the extra money for something distinguished? If Phoenix has any ambition to be the world-class city it keeps talking about, it can't do it with low-bid buildings and timid design. — Antoine Predock; Will Bruder; Richard Meier-Arizona Republic

On the Far Shores of Invention: There is evidence that serious architecture is still being made...Here are a few highlights of the coming season... By Nicolai Ouroussoff -- Allied Works; Renzo Piano; Urbanus; Steven Holl; Gehry; I.M. Pei [slide show]- New York Times

The Glass Stampede: As this last great building boom winds down...Does the new see-through city look better or worse than the one it replaced? A building-by-building survey. By Justin Davidson — Greenberg Farrow; Polshek; SLCE; Arquitectonica; Platt Byard Dovell; Alex Garvin; Handel Architects; Pasquarelli/SHoP; Kondylis; Dubbeldam/Archi-Tectonics; Robert A.M. Stern; Gehry; Renzo Piano; Meier; BKSK; Roche Dinkeloo; Davis Brody Bond; Morris Adjmi; Aldo Rossi; Peter Marino; Gluckman Mayner; Herzog & De Meuron; Fox & Fowle; Taniguchi; Gwathmey Siegel; Stephen P. Jacobs; Perkins Eastman; lu & Bibliowicz; Einhorn Yaffe Prescott; FXFowle; Philip Johnson Alan Ritchie; Nouvel; Pelli; Tschumi; Norten/TEN Arquitectos; Attia; Viñoly; Sanaa; Foster; etc. [images]- New York Magazine

Architects behind the starchitects: Big designers get credit, but lower-profile firms often do bulk of the work...as so-called architects of record — or executive architects, as they are sometimes called. — Gruzen Samton; Helmut Jahn; Morphosis; Steven Kratchman; Annabelle Selldorf; Davis Brody Bond Aedas; Renzo Piano; FXFowle; SLCE Architects; Robert A.M. Stern; Jean Nouvel- The Real Deal (NY)

Natural History Museum: A £78m metamorphosis: Where can you find 17m bugs and 200 scientists inside a giant cocoon? Jonathan Glancey takes a look around the extraordinary new Darwin Centre...a quietly masterful stroke...though this might be just a little too Kafka-esque for your liking. -- CF Moller [image, links]- Guardian (UK)

Giant Egg Will Be New London Museum Landmark: Darwin Centre...Apart from its clear scientific value and purpose the Natural History Museum has added...a building of great originality and intelligence that will become a new landmark in London. It succeeds by having one clear visual idea that functions both practically and dramatically. By Colin Amery -- C.F. Moeller Architects- Bloomberg News

Cost-cutting fears over Zaha's Glasgow museum: Hadid's flagship transport museum is undergoing a further round of value-engineering. The council insisted the move was not only about cost-cutting and would not "hack the building to bits", but leading design figures in Scotland have reacted with alarm. [image]-BD/Building Design (UK)

Higher education, with yoga: ...university planners are strategizing about ways to offer big-city pleasures wrapped up in welcoming, occasionally daring architecture..."Out-of-classroom experience" is the latest catchphrase from the mouths of university architects and administrators... By Lisa Rochon -- Snohetta; EMA Architects; Richard Meier; Koolhaas/Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA); Urban Strategies; Sasaki Associates; B + H Architects; Shoalts and Zaback- Globe and Mail (Canada)

A stylish state college building sweeps into view: Until recently, state schools could at least claim that the price was right. But in today's competitive world, merely being a bargain is not enough...[students] want campuses that feel comfortable, look good and, ideally, have a brand name attached to the architecture. By Inga Saffron -- MGA Partners; Carlos Jimenez-Philadelphia Inquirer

David Rockwell to get 2008 Sarno Lifetime Achievement Award for contributions to the field of casino design and architecture. - Las Vegas Sun

To the Editor: MoMA and the Architect: Re "An Architect Unshackled by Limits of the Real World," by Nicolai Ouroussoff...comment about why the museum did not select Mr. Koolhaas is unfair to the trustees on the museum's selection committee and to Mr. Koolhaas, whose design was given a great deal of consideration. By Glenn D. Lowry -- Herzog & de Meuron; Bernard Tschumi; Yoshio Taniguchi- New York Times

Deadline reminder: 56th Annual P/A Awards for unbuilt projects that demonstrate overall design excellence and innovation (U.S., Canada, Mexico); deadline: September 19- Architect Magazine

WORDS THAT BUILD: Learning How to Persuade Through Learning Variations on a Theme. Tip #6: Master a communications tool that generates copious variations on your theme. By Norman Weinstein- ArchNewsNow

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